

## WHANGAREI Physiotherapy Services

445 Kamo Road, Kamo, Whangarei  
Telephone 09 435 2299  
Facsimile 09 435 2222  
Kensington Gym Clinic  
Telephone 09 459 5000

## Matarau Electrical Services

RD1, Kamo, Whangarei  
Phone 09 433 5533

Andrew Coop  
Registered Electrician  
021 733 883

All Domestic, farm & commercial maintenance  
New house wiring . Light industrial. alterations

**Top service anywhere in town**

## Xtreme Shampoo Shop & Salon

The Strand Arcade  
Cameron St Mall  
Whangarei  
Ph 438 1933

**where Good Hair Days begin**



**YOUR MEAT SPECIALIST**

29 Kamo Road, Kamo A/h 435 3002  
Phone 09 4351403 A/h fax 4353012  
09 Fax 09 4351780 Mobile 027 5435140

**ALASTAIR RICKEY DECORATING LTD**

Bring your home to life...

450 Matarau Road  
R.D.1 Kamo 0121  
Whangarei  
Ph/Fax: 09 435 5509  
Cell: 021 766 439  
email: rickey9@xtra.co.nz

Interior &  
Exterior  
Painting &  
Decorating



Independent - Trade Qualified  
Trent Sissons  
P 433 5156 M 021 743 163  
www.heatpumppro.co.nz

**new zealand HOME LOANS**  
FINANCIAL FREEDOM for lifestyle choice

Mark Adams  
NEW ZEALAND HOME LOAN WHANGAREI LTD  
26 Commerce Street, Whangarei  
Tel: 430 3527; Fax 430 3529  
Email: marka@nzhomeloans.co.nz  
Web: www.nzhomeloans.co.nz

# Newsletter Number 28 29 October 2010



**Website** [www.matarau.school.nz](http://www.matarau.school.nz)

**Phone / Fax** (09) 433 5823 **Email** – [admin@matarau.school.nz](mailto:admin@matarau.school.nz)

### Thanks

.. To those folk who assisted in any way with our Calf Club Day, especially to Alison Faithfull and Steve Martin, Murray Mortimer, Maria Fribbens, Lisa Jones, John Woffindin and Hana Easton who helped serve teas and coffees, and lunch setup, plus the massive clean-up afterwards.  
.. To parents and extended family who shared this day with us  
.. To those parents assisting with current fund-raising efforts.  
.. To those parents helping out with next week's junior field trip to Matapouri Beach.  
.. To Ringrose Stock Foods for funding the ribbons and rosettes awarded at last week's calf Club Day and to our Calf Club sponsors Omak Meats and NZ Home Loans.

### People of the week

.. Mr Schuster who put in a valiant effort on Battle of the Sexes this week - got the harder questions of course.  
.. Those children whose diligent efforts were rewarded with ribbons, rosettes and/or certificates at last week's calf club.

### Cups and Trophies

It is time to polish up the trophy and return it to school as we are beginning preparations for the end of year Prize Giving. Please return to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you.



### Responsibility Virtue

A reminder to continue your good work at home on the Responsibilities virtue. Please let us know if you have misplaced your support material and advise us of special gains so we can acknowledge these in the newsletter.

### Poroti Athletics - 9 November

Consents for this event were issued today. Please note that all children Years 3 to 8 will be attending and that regular classes will not take place on this day (except for Year 1 and 2 children). Most children will travel by bus, leaving school shortly after 8:00 AM returning by 3:00 PM. Children bring suitable clothing (including Matarau T-Shirts), sunhats, sunblock, lunch, plenty to drink and spending money at your discretion. Please return consents next week.

**think... SOLD!**

think yellow,  
think...

**Maggie Dixon**  
Real Estate Ltd

Phone 4700996  
[www.maggiedixon.co.nz](http://www.maggiedixon.co.nz)

Michele Blagrove, Sales Consultant  
Mobile 027 6100 303, After Hours 09 4335 735

### Term Calendar

Additional dates will be advised as these come to hand.

2 November	Room 1 to 4 trip to Matapouri Beach
2 November	K.H.S. testing day (here at Matarau)
8 November	Lunch time athletics tournament starts
9 November	Zone athletics at Poroti School
9 November	Mobile Ear Clinic outside Bush Road Medical Centre (8:30 to 3:30)
18 / 19 November	Tech Quest (more to follow)
30 November	Year 7 and 8 Interschool Athletics
30 Nov - 3 Dec	Year 4 camp at Marsden Bay
2-3 December	Year 3 camp at Marsden Bay
6 December	Year 7 and 8 abseiling at Whangarei Falls
10 December	Reports issued to parents
13 December	Team Athletics Day
14 December	Prize Giving
15 December	Year 8 Fun Day
16 December	Final day of school year

### School Sun Hat

A reminder that these are compulsory in terms 1 and 4 when our sun is at its most intense. Children will be required to wear the school approved (wide brimmed) bucket hats each day please. Additional hats can be purchased from the school office at a cost of \$7.50 each. Please ensure that your child's hat is labelled.

### Year 3 / 4 Camp to Marsden Bay

If you have not yet returned camp consents please send these to school as soon as possible. Any questions please to Mrs Abbott.

### Room 1 - 4 trip to Matapouri Beach - 2 November

A reminder that children will travel by bus (**please ensure that they are at school by 8:30 AM for an early departure**). Please ensure they have their sunhat, sun safe clothing, sun block, change of clothes, walking shoes, a warm jersey, morning tea, lunch, a drink bottle and a small butterfly net if they have one. **If you have not yet returned your child's consent please send this in on Monday morning.** Any questions to Mrs Bruce please.

### Secondary School Testing

Parents of Year 8 students will be aware that secondary school placement testing is under way. Please impress on children the importance of these tests in determining class placement for next year. As is our practice, Mr Delemare will shortly meet with secondary schools to ensure that they have full information on your child and that they get the best placements possible.

### Mary Wallace Art Awards

You may recall that two art scholarships were presented last year based on a portfolio of artworks submitted for judging. If you think your child might be interested please contact the school office for further information, or chat to their teacher about their suitability. In a nutshell, each portfolio is to contain .. 4 pieces of art work completed by the candidate this year .. 1 piece completed (at school) in some other year .. a brief written statement on one of the art pieces. Portfolios are to be submitted for judging by 29 November.

### Lunchtime Athletics Competitions

If able to help with these competitions (lunchtimes starting 8 November) please give Kevin a call. We will even let you choose your favourite event(s) and age level(s). Parents might like to encourage their children's interest in these events.

**Spelling Bee** .. Underway soon. Parents might like to encourage their children's involvement.

### **Term Headlice Inspection**

.. is scheduled for 12 November. We need further parent offers to assist with this inspection. If you are able to assist with this term's inspection please phone Donna Cates in the office. In the meantime parents are asked to check children's hair weekly and to take prompt action in the event of infestation.

### **Home Gardens**

Remember ..

- .. that gardens need to be looking their best for judging in late November.
- .. to use the garden resource booklet sent home with children last term if needing ideas
- .. to add a little here and there to garden diaries
- .. to give Kevin a call (or drop by) with any questions.



**We plan to meet Thursday 4 November to swap seedlings and so on this day**

**please send children to school with something to swap and a plastic bag.** Not compulsory but each child who brings something will be able to swap with another gardener. If you are keen to help out with garden judging in late November / early December please give Kevin a call.

**MARZ DVD's** ... Orders have now closed and will be delivered in the next couple of weeks.

### **Matarau School Fundraising Raffle 2010**

Congratulations to the following:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize Canon Digital Camera, Una Moir, Ticket #1233
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize Nokia Mobile Phone, Nimo Ponifasio, Ticket # 0363
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize Digital Photo Frame, Ulrica Paterson, ticket #1455
- 4<sup>th</sup> Prize Uniden Cordless Phone Twin Handset, Natasha Hewson, Ticket #1299
- 5<sup>th</sup> Prize 8GB Flashdrive, Tom & Lilly Muller, Ticket #0752

Many thanks to all for your support. We have raised just over \$2000 for this event.

### **Calendars 2011**

Reminder final orders will be taken on Monday 1 November. If you have not had a chance to return your order yet.. artwork can still be viewed at the office prior to ordering if required.

**Drink Bottles** .. due to arrive this week.

### **Community Notices**

**Wanted** - 2x weaner Simmental steers or similar. Ph Wayne 0274767084.

**Relief Milker Required** - 14km from Matarau School. Must have own transport. Please ph 4337594.

**House to Rent** - 4 bedroom villa with wetback fire box, spring water, wet area shower/bathroom, HRV system. Pets allowed. Dbl garage. Situated at Matarau. Available immediately for min 12 months \$350/wk. Ph Naomi on 4335786 or 02102676598.

**WGHS Enrolments & Orientation day** - Monday 6 December 2010. Enrolment interviews at WGHS every Tuesday & Thursday during school hours. Call now for a prospectus and interview time.

**Kamo Amateur Swim Club** - Registration Fri 5 November, 4.00pm at Kamo High School pool. New members welcome. Come prepared to swim if requiring an assessment. Swimmers need to be confident in water and swim width of KHS pool. Stroke improvement begins Mon 8<sup>th</sup> Nov at 4.30pm and thereafter Mon & Fri, 4.30pm. First club night, with timed races, Wed 1 Dec at 6.00pm. If you would like to help out or have any queries, ph Sue Mehrstens on 4335606 or 021834570.

**Kamo Tennis Club Inc** - Jnrs Tues 3.30-5.30pm beginning 19 October, Club Nights Tues & Thurs 5.30pm, already commenced, Ladies Day Thur 9am-11.30am.

**Bream Bay Fun Run & Walk** - Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November @ 9.00am. For registration forms and more info visit [www.wps.school.nz](http://www.wps.school.nz)

**A&P Show Children's Pet Competition** - Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> December. Entry forms available at the office.

**Rural Home Based Childcare** - 20 hrs free available for 3-5 yr olds. Pickup/Drop off options available, arranged on an individual basis. Enquire now to reserve your space. Phone Sharlene 4337944.

### **Research findings on what really makes a difference to learning**

So .. moving down the list .. *(Interesting as individualised programmes are often touted as the way of the future).*

	<u>Last week</u>	<u>This week</u>
Bigger difference than was believed	Direct instruction	Remediation and feedback
Lesser difference than was believed	School finances	Individualised programmes

### **Safety of children waiting for the school bus**

A special thanks for ensuring children wear their high visibility vests - further vests available on request.

### **Forthcoming Camps**

The Board would like to remind parents that the school has a "no alcohol" policy for all school camps. It is important that all parents volunteering to assist with any outdoor education experience realise that the safety and wellbeing of children needs to remain the first and foremost concern of all parents at all times. Parents will be expected to adhere to this policy. The Board is extremely grateful for the contribution that parents make to these experiences, without which, these camps would not proceed.

### **International Schools English and Mathematics Competitions**

The school has had the English results for just over 4 weeks and the maths results for 2 weeks. During this period staff have been analysing data so that they can make informed comments on each child's performance, if asked. The results are entered into our Student Management System and become part of self-review and forward planning. Given the difficulty level of these tests, we are satisfied with overall performances and congratulate children for what they have achieved. While we need to be careful with the amount of time spent on these tests at school (not least because they are not directly based on the NZ Curriculum) we are currently discussing ways to further support our candidates without compromising other important elements of their programme.

Individual result sheets for the English Exam were sent home this week. These show your child's performance against the school and national range and average and also show areas of higher and lower performance. The maths result sheets will be sent home next week.

#### **When analysing results you are encouraged to ..**

.. remember that these tests are designed to be difficult and tend to be sat by children who are already achieving in the upper quartiles in maths. So, an average performance in these tests (or perhaps even a below average performance) might be well above average in any test normed for the general school population.

.. only (and this is approximate) 2 or 3 percent of NZ students sit these exams and so they are not suitable for drawing comparisons with the general school population.

.. these test are most useful as an adjunct to regular programmes and as extension for children needing this.

.. trends are more important than one off results. If your child has lifted or dipped from one test to another be cautious about the conclusions you draw from this. Trends and patterns over longer periods of time are much more useful and might form part of a useful discussion with your child and/or their teacher.

### **Final thought - Fund-raising activities**

The Board would like to acknowledge the efforts and hard work of all of those parents who assist with our fund-raising efforts. These efforts are essential if programmes are to be kept at their current level. It is a sad fact that the government provides us with only 75% of our current operational funding with the remainder being locally raised funds. The formula which determines resourcing of schools is heavily weighted against high decile schools and this is sadly something we (and all high decile schools) have to live with. The board assures parents that all funds are spent wisely and with a determination to add the maximum possible value to learning for the greatest number of children. Our current fund-raising timetable is a little compacted due to certain term 3 events running over into term 4 and we will aim for a more even distribution next year to make things a little easier for parents. Be assured your fund-raising efforts are appreciated.

Regards

Kevin Trehwella

PRINCIPAL

**Our Sponsors support your  
children, please support them**

#### **Matarau Electrical Services**

RD1, Kamo, Whangarei  
Phone 09 433 5533

Andrew Coop  
Registered Electrician  
021 733 883